

REMARKS

The present application includes claims 1-33. Claims 11 and 20-33 were allowed. Claims 2-9 and 12-18 were objected to. Claims 1, 10, and 19 were rejected. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 19 have been canceled, claims 3-9 and 12-18 have been amended, and new claims 40-42 have been added.

Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Thomasson, U.S. Patent No. 6,205,473.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hendricks, U.S. Patent No. 6,201,536, in view of Stewart, U.S. Patent No. 5,930,708. Claim 1 has been canceled. Consequently, it is respectfully submitted that the present rejection has become moot.

Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Birdwell, U.S. Patent No. 6,172,972, in view of Stewart. Claim 19 has been canceled. Consequently, it is respectfully submitted that the present rejection has become moot.

Claims 2-9 and 12-18 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but found to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. Claims 12-18 have been amended to depend from allowed independent claim 11 rather than from rejected claim 10. Also, in a prior Amendment dated October 30, 2003, the applicant amended claim 2 to be an independent claim, similar to allowed claim 11. Claims 3-9 have been amended

to depend from independent claim 2 rather than from rejected claim 1. Consequently, claims 2-9 and 12-18 are respectfully submitted to be allowable.

The Applicant now turns to the rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Thomasson. Thomasson teaches a method and system for asymmetric satellite communications for local area networks. As illustrated in Figure 1 and described beginning at Col. 4, Line 18, Thomasson includes a satellite receiver 110 (depicted as a satellite dish) receiving a signal from a satellite 112. The satellite receiver 110 is connected to a server 103. As shown in Figure 1, the satellite receiver 110 and the server 103 are illustrated as separate physical components. Similarly, as shown in Figure 2, the satellite receiver 110 is again illustrated as a separate physical component from the server 103. Additionally, as described in Thomasson at Col. 4, Line 20, the satellite receiver 110 and server 103 are described as connected using a signal antenna waveguide, also illustrating that the satellite receiver 110 and the server 103 are separate components in Thomasson. Finally, as described beginning at Col. 3, Lines 63, the invention of Thomasson preferably performs in conjunction with DirectPC satellite receivers. That is, not only is the satellite receiver a different physical component, the satellite receiver is not considered by Thomasson to be part of the invention.

The situation described by Thomasson of separate physical components for the satellite receiver and router is discussed as prior art in the present specification, for example in Figure 10. The separate satellite receiver and router shown in Figure 10 may be compared with the integrated satellite receiver/router shown in Figure 5, according to

an embodiment of the present invention. As shown in Figure 5, the functionality of the satellite receiver and router have been integrated or combined into one physical device and additional functionality has also been added as discussed in the specification.

Thomasson does not teach an integrated satellite receiver and router. Instead, in Thomasson, the satellite receiver and router are separate physical devices, as evidenced by their connection with a signal antenna waveguide and other factors as discussed above.

Claim 10 has been amended to clarify that the integrated receiver and router integrates the receiver and router into a single product. As discussed above, Thomasson only teaches the satellite receiver and router as separate products. Consequently, independent claim 10 is respectfully submitted to be allowable.

Additionally, new claims 40-42 have been added. Claims 40-42 are similar to claim 10, but use differing language to recite the limitation of the integration of the satellite receiver and router. As discussed above, the integration of the satellite receiver and router is not taught by Thomasson

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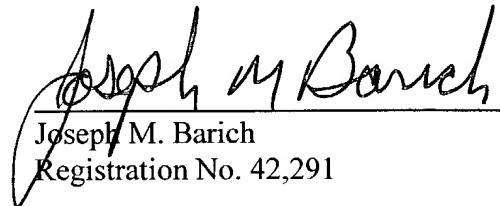
CONCLUSION

If the Examiner has any questions or the Applicant can be of any assistance, the Examiner is invited and encouraged to contact the Applicant at the number below.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any necessary fees or credit any overpayment to the Deposit Account of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Account No. 13-0017. Additionally, please charge any fees for additional claims or for the extension of time to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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